No. 12 The Washington Post Co. SATURDAY,

# Mrs. Kennedy Files

DECEMBER 17, 1966 Phone 223-6000 Circulation 223-6100 Classified 223-6200 TEN CENTS

# Suit to Block Book

## Widow Says Agreement Was Broken

### Court Summons Publishers of Story On Assassination

By Leroy F. Aarons
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 Jacqueline Kennedy filed suit today to bar publication in book or magazine form of the controversial account of her husband's death by author William Manchester.

The suit, filed in New York Supreme Court, seeks an immediate and permanent injunction prohibiting publication. Judge Saul Streit ordered the defendants—Harper & Row book publishers, Cowles Communications, Inc., publishers of Look Magazine, and Manchester—to appear at a show-cause hearing Dec. 27.

Mrs. Kennedy charges in her complaint that the defendants violated a written agreement with Manchester giving her and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy approval rights prior to publication of any part of Manchester's book, "Death of a President."

**Press Run Begun**

Look Magazine has already begun its press run on the first of four excerpts from the book, to run in its issue of Jan. 10. The entire book is scheduled for publication by Harper & Row in April. Spokesmen for both organizations said today they have not changed their plans, but had no other comment.

The public controversy over the book began last week when it was learned that Mrs. Kennedy objected to certain passages based on a series of interviews she had granted Manchester. She announced Wednesday she would take legal action to prohibit what she called "shocking exploitation" of her emotional state at the time of the interviews.

Today's complaint contains a number of supporting documents, some never before made public, including affidavits by Mrs. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, various letters exchanged between the parties, and a copy of the

See **KENNEDY, A4, Col. 1**

*Partial texts of affidavits submitted by Mrs. John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy in book suit.*

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KENNEDY—*From Page A1*

# Mrs. Kennedy Sues to Bar Book, Charges Violation of Agreement

March 26, 1964, agreement between Manchester and the Kennedys.

Neither Mrs. Kennedy nor the Senator appeared in court today.

**Crux of Dispute**

The 1964 agreement is the crux of the dispute and is the legal basis on which Mrs. Kennedy's attorneys are proceeding. In the copy provided with today's complaint, Item 3 of the agreement reads: "The completed manuscript shall be reviewed by Mrs. John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy, and the final text shall not be published unless and until approved by them."

Mrs. Kennedy says in her affidavit, "I have not given my consent or approval to any publication of Manchester's manuscript." She adds that both Cowles and Harper had been repeatedly advised of her rights by herself, Sen. Kennedy and her attorneys.

Publication of the unapproved manuscript, Mrs. Kennedy states, "will result in precisely the sensationalism and commercialism which we — Robert F. Kennedy and I — sought so strenuously to avoid. The threatened publication is in total disregard of my rights and, if it goes forward, will utterly destroy them."

Manchester was chosen to write the history of the Kennedy assassination by Mrs. Kennedy, who had admired a previous book by Manchester about the late President. He was given exclusive access to files and was permitted to interview key figures in the tragedy, including Mrs. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy.

**Claims Approval**

In going ahead with the publication, Manchester has maintained that he received Kennedy family approval both verbally and in a telegram from Robert Kennedy in July of this year.

Sen. Kennedy, in his affidavit included in the complaint, flatly denies this. "I categorically state," he says, "that at no time did I ever give my approval or consent to the text of the manuscript, to any publication thereof, or to any time of publication; nor did I ever say or do anything from which the defendants could reasonably have believed that I did."

Kennedy said he sent the July telegram because he had been informed that "Manchester was becoming ill from an obsession with the thought that the book might never be published."

The telegram, quoted in its entirety in the affidavit says, in part:

"As this is going to be the subject matter of a book and since Mr. Manchester in his research had access to more information and sources than any other writer, members of the Kennedy family will place no obstacle in the way of publication of his work.

"However, if Mr. Manchester's account is published in segments or excerpts, I would expect that incidents would not be taken out of context or summarized in any way which might distort the facts of or the events relating to President Kennedy's death."

## Naples Gives Up On Traffic Plan

Reuters

NAPLES, Italy, Dec. 16 Traffic returned to its normal kind of chaos in Naples today after an attempt by the authorities to organize it yesterday brought the city to a complete standstill.

The idea was to speed up the traffic flow by imposing a one-way system in the city center, but the traffic promptly snarled up into one vast, city-wide jam.

Thousands of motorists were imprisoned for hours in their cars, unable to move. Business in the city center. Business in the city center was virtually paralyzed.

By evening the town council decided to give up the plan and think of another.

## Italy Airline Buys Giant Boeing Jets

Reuters

ROME, Dec. 16—The Italian Government has authorized the national airline Alitalia to buy four Boeing 747 jumbo jets for its intercontinental routes, it was reported today.

Two of the giant aircraft are expected to be delivered in 1970, the rest the following year, according to an official communique.